



THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

January 11, 2022

His Excellency
Albin Kurti
Prime Minister
of the Republic of Kosovo
Pristina

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The United States and Kosovo enjoy a relationship rooted in shared democratic values and a commitment to a sovereign, independent Kosovo. By generously hosting Afghans awaiting resettlement, Kosovo is demonstrating leadership the United States and others can rely upon. Similarly, the Kosovo Security Force's 2021 co-deployment with the U.S. Army in Kuwait underscores Kosovo's growing capacity to contribute to global security.

As Kosovo's friend and partner, the United States looks forward to working with you to realize the full agenda President Biden laid out for our relationship, including strengthening the rule of law, protecting the rights of minorities, fostering economic growth, and securing a long-overdue normalization agreement between Kosovo and Serbia centered on mutual recognition.

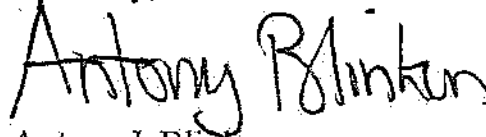
The unresolved nature of Kosovo-Serbia relations remains a major obstacle to Kosovo's full membership and integration into European and Euro-Atlantic institutions, a goal the United States shares with you. We believe the EU-facilitated dialogue remains the best forum for normalization negotiations between Belgrade and Pristina, and we closely coordinate with our EU partners to this end.

The United States looks to your personal leadership in restoring momentum to the dialogue process by upholding your country's prior commitments; fostering transparency; avoiding actions or rhetoric that may increase tensions; and engaging in the negotiations with the requisite focus, creativity, and urgency. I encourage your attention to reaching agreements on electricity in northern Kosovo and on advancing shared goals on missing persons. These issues are in Kosovo's interest to resolve and lend themselves to near-term compromise solutions that can serve as the basis for further progress toward comprehensive normalization. Upholding judicial rulings – particularly those related to minority rights – would have a

similar positive effect and is in line with your government's priorities on strengthening the rule of law.

Please work closely with Ambassador Hovenier and U.S. Special Representative for the Western Balkans Gabriel Escobar, both of whom are fully empowered to address these issues with you. Both are prepared to discuss specifics with you and your team. We stand ready to help Kosovo achieve shared goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antony Blinken". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Antony J. Blinken